



The Jewish

# Gaily Forward

Tevet + Sh'vat + Adar 5773 ■ January + February 2013

## What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT

**Weekly Torah Portion Study, 7:30 pm**

Come and study with Daniel Chesir and Rabbi Camille Angel at CSZ.

JANUARY, TBD

**Family Estrangement: Healing the Pain**

**A Spiritual Support Group  
Rabbi Camille Angel and Kim  
Haveson, LCSW**

Six monthly sessions. Sliding fee scale—no one to be turned away for lack of funds. If there is an estrangement in your family-of-origin, join Rabbi Angel and Kim Haveson in this group. Together we will explore and move through issues of anger, confusion, grief, forgiveness, and healing in a safe and supportive environment. For more information, contact Kim Haveson at (415) 285-6035.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

**Caring for our Aging Parents,  
Caring for Ourselves**

**A Spiritual Support Group for  
Family Caregivers**

**Rabbi Camille Angel and Kim  
Haveson, LCSW**

**7:00 pm–9:00 pm**

We are pleased to offer the series again for CSZ members on the following dates: Jan 22, Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 16, and May 28. If you are living with

(continued on page 4)

## Prayer for Our Country and World

*Last month, in the throes of election night, I was reflecting upon the electoral process, and praying with every ounce of my being that, post-election, we might all be able to work better together. The following prayer is the result; may we all have the strength and courage to make it a reality.*

May our hands and hearts stretch towards one another  
May we embrace that we are all both the “same” and “other”  
May we clearly see the totality and preciousness of who we each are  
And may encountering that which is different fill us with curiosity.

May we have the courage to ask when we don't understand  
May we have the patience to explain when we are misunderstood  
May we believe the best about and in each other  
And may labels be left for packaged food and clothing.

For we are all *b'tzelem Elohim*, all created in the divine image.  
And even if we lost the box top,  
And can't see out how the puzzle pieces of our different visions  
connect into a coherent picture,  
We need to believe that they will,  
And figure it out.  
Together.

—Sharon Bernstein



# Honoring Aging Parents



**WHEN THE** Fifth Commandment says, "Honor your father and your mother," how exactly do you do that when:

- Your parents' expectations of how you should honor them are so out of line that you feel you can't possibly live up to their wishes?
- Your mother or father is a difficult person with whom it is frustrating to talk or get along?
- One or both of your parents continually criticizes your appearances, your choice of career, your romantic partner, how you raise your children, how you practice your religion, or how often you call or see each other?
- Your parents begin to decline in health and they start to require more from you than you know how to provide? Will you be able to care well enough for your parents to say afterward, "Yes, I honored them as best I could?"

Honoring your parents is difficult even if you were raised by extremely decent and caring people. Almost 1800 years ago, one of the most respected rabbis of the Talmud, Simeon ben Yohai, suggested that the most difficult of all the commandments is Honor Thy father and thy mother.

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin in his 1994 book *Jewish Wisdom* discusses how "often confused mixture of emotions that children feel for parents perhaps accounts for the peculiar fact that while the Bible legislates love of neighbor (Lev. 19:18) love the stranger (Lev. 19:34) and love of God (Deut. 6:5), it does not do so for parents. In so vital and intense a relationship, love is too volatile an emotion to be commanded; therefore, the Bible demands a standard of honor and respect that can remain in force even in times of estrangement."

Even the specific word used in the Hebrew text of the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment illustrates the complexity of honoring your parents. *Cahveid* has a two-sided meaning. On the one hand, *cahveid* means heaviness, weightiness, difficulty, or burden. On the other hand, *cahveid* also means to honor and give importance or weight to someone.

Judaism doesn't pretend that honoring your parents is always easy or light. The question of how to honor a parent,

especially a parent with whom you have had disagreements or painful interactions, is no simple matter. How to juggle your aging parent's needs with your own is a complex problem for most people. How to do right by your parents without neglecting responsibilities that are equally pressing—toward your other family members, work, and your own life—is something that baffles even the most organized, competent, caring individuals.

Don't go it alone! Find support and establish connections with others, who can listen, commiserate, laugh along with you while assuring you that you are not alone. Our Caregivers to Aging Parents support group continues to meet monthly at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. If you or someone you know is interested in participating, please contact me or Kim Have-son. We are happy to meet with you and make a space. Please let us, your Jewish community, help you in fulfilling this ultimate mitzvah.

## Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

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Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism, the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Jews, and the San Francisco Organizing Project



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# The New Year of Trees



**AT THE END** of November, the Chronicle reported that 2012 has ranked among the warmest years recorded since temperature tracking began 160 years ago. United Nations meteorologists point to the alarming rate of global warming as the key factor in Arctic ice melting and believe this trend heightens the risk of extreme weather events.

Given that hurricanes are spawned by warm surface temperatures, and given that the Atlantic Ocean is warmer than usual, maybe we should not be surprised by unusual weather patterns like Hurricane Sandy—a hurricane that caused \$50 billion in damages, crippled transportation, and left millions of people without heat or electricity for weeks! Do you remember New York being hit by hurricanes when you were growing up? Sandy serves as a clear indicator that weather patterns are changing and is a pretty good example of an “extreme weather event.”

Global warming here will raise the water level of the Bay and change the entire waterfront. Reduced snowfall in the Sierras will severely decrease the water supply available for consumption and industry. The world we leave to our children will be a frightening place, if we don't confront the trend of global warming.

Why is global warming a topic for the President's Column? Because creating a firm resolve to tackle the problem of global warming ties with the upcoming holiday of Tu B'Shevat.

This post-biblical holiday—the New Year of the Trees—marks the seasonal change when trees come out of their winter slumber and prepare themselves for the next season to come, when they will bear fruit again. Tu B'Shevat emphasizes our concern for trees, harvests, and the natural world. The holiday's themes are thankfulness for God's creation, responsibility to share the fruits of God's earth, and the sacred obligation to care for God's world. Humankind hasn't done such a great job of expressing thankfulness, accepting responsibility for an equitable distribution of the fruits, or

acknowledging our sacred obligation to care for our planet.

The October issue of *The Nation* carried a damning essay by Mark Hertsgaard, a Bay Area resident. In “Hurricane Sandy as Greek Tragedy,” Hertsgaard describes the warning signs we have long ignored, just as Cassandra's prophesies of tragedy were ignored. Hurricane Sandy's \$50 billion message is one we cannot afford to ignore. We can't ignore the impending doom of climate change.

To address these concerns, we are working with our friends at First Mennonite Church to create a joint CSZ/FMC program tied to the themes of Tu B'Shevat and the concerns we face. The programmatic themes of the holiday will help our two communities explore the steps we might take together. We are striving for programming that renews our thankfulness for God's creation, our responsibility to share the fruits of God's earth, and our sacred obligation to care for God's world.

Stay tuned for details about the Tu B'Shevat programming. In the meantime, you can read Mark Hertsgaard's article online: <http://www.thenation.com/article/170918/hurricane-sandy-greek-tragedy>.

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# What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav

(continued from page 1)

practical, emotional, and spiritual challenges in supporting aging parents, please join us. Whether your parent is local or lives far away, is currently ill, or you anticipate a change in his/her needs, this group is for you. We request a contribution of \$150-\$250 (no one will be turned away for lack of funds). For more information, contact Kim Haveson at (415) 285-6035.

## Services

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 25**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

**Friday Night Live, 6:00 pm**

Calling all Kids! Bring yourselves and your favorite grown-ups and celebrate Shabbat with us. Designed for children 0 to 6 years, but all are welcome. Our Friday Night Live service will be followed by dinner in the Oneg Room. We will provide pizza, but we encourage you to bring a vegetarian dish to share with the community as well. FNL continues on the 4th Friday of the month during the school year.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

**Purim**

Celebrate Purim with Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Check your weekly email for details.

## Music at CSZ

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 10**

**Master Class, 7:00 pm**

Are you a service leader, Torah chanter, chorus member or someone who enjoys singing at Shabbat and Holiday services? Please come and observe Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's first "Master Class" pro-

gram, led by our own Ruth Rainero. A Master Class involves a voice teacher and a few students who want to improve their singing skills, as well as an audience of interested individuals who observe the singing, feedback, and training process and, thereby, learn singing tips and skills by watching the training of those in the Master Class. Ruth is a professional vocal coach who has worked with opera singers, every day vocalists, people with voice rehabilitation needs, and everything in between. This two-hour program will give attendees a chance to pick up some valuable tricks of the trade that can be put to good use wherever and whenever you sing. There is no charge for the class and everyone is welcome. As time permits, audience members will be able to ask questions about the lessons taught in the Master Class. Please join us for this unique learning experience. This event is sponsored by the Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk Musical Event Fund.

### PRACTICE AREAS

*Divorce*

*Domestic Partner  
Dissolution*

*Separation*

*Property & Pension  
Distribution*

*Alimony*

*Custody*

*Visitation*

*Child Support*

*Restraining Orders*

*Paternity*

*Pre-Marital  
Agreements*

*Post-Divorce Disputes*

*Modification of Orders*

*Appeals*



We recognize that a Family Law matter is one of the most difficult challenges that you may face—whether in a traditional or alternative family setting.

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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 18**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

**Shabbes Beat, 7:30 pm**

Every 3rd Friday. It's all about that Shabbes groove. Sing, dance, and pray. Joy up, relax, breathe, sway. Join Cantor Sharon and the Shabbes Beat band and chorus at this monthly rock, jazz, Latin, and blues service and get your Shabbes rest on.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 26**

**Cantor Unplugged: International Cabaret, 8 pm**

An intimate evening of ballads, chansons, and show tunes from across the lands with Cantor Sharon Bernstein, Cantor Leigh Korn, and Carolyn Reiser at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Admission: \$10 members; \$15 non-members; children 12 and under free. Reception to follow. (415) 861-6932 [www.shaarzahav.org](http://www.shaarzahav.org). Sponsored by The Rabbi Julius and Pearl Funk Musical Events Fund

## Community

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 27**

**Middle East Dialogue & Programming Committee presents:**

**Dr. Smadar Lavie, Scholar-in-Residence, Beatrice Bain Research Group UC Berkeley, 3-5:00 pm**

Dr. Lavie (<http://berkeley.academia.edu/SmadarLavie>) is a world-renowned anthropologist, a co-founder of Ahoti, Israel's feminist-of-color movement, and a CSZ member. She will discuss her forthcoming book, *Wrapped in the Flag of Israel: Mizrahi Single Mothers and the Gender and Race of Bureaucratic Torture*, as well as recent events in Israel. Her presentation will be followed by facilitated discussion groups. Contact the CSZ office at (415) 861-6932 for more information.

**THURSDAYS, JANUARY 31—FEBRUARY 28 (NO CLASS 2/14)**

**Yiddish Women Writers in America and their Feminist Legacy**

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 7:30-9:00 pm**

This course explores the selected writings (English translation) of early 20th century Yiddish-American women writers, and their mid-century Jewish feminist suc-

cessors. In the fiction and poetry of Kadya Molodowsky, Celia Dropkin, Tillie Olsen, and Grace Paley, we'll encounter the immigrant experience from a female perspective. We'll examine how the writers depart from earlier Jewish literary forms to critique or reiterate prevailing cultural modes and values, and we'll discuss how the work reflects their complex experience as Jews, women, and Americans. Tuition: \$40. More info: <http://catalog.lehrhaus.org/course/2013/winter/T200-CSZ/>

## Chavurot

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

**Havdalah Chavurah, 7-8:30 pm**

Join us for havdalah the first Saturday of every month and help create our newest chavurah. Facilitated by Maggid Andrew Ramer, we will do havdalah, listen to a story, and share the creative work of someone in our community. This chavurah is for people of all ages. It is also a potluck, so bring your favorite snack food, savory or sweet, and let's end Shabbat and begin a new week together in our sanctuary.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

**Meditation Chavurah, 10:00 am**

All are welcome to join us at our monthly meeting of the meditation chavurah. We gather in the reception area at CSZ about 10:00 am and walk to the nearby home of a member to sit in a lovely, peaceful setting. A typical gathering includes a short and longer silent sit, often including a guided portion; some chanting; reflecting; and perhaps a short teaching. For more information, contact the office, or Sarita at [sarita@fit@gmail.com](mailto:sarita@fit@gmail.com).

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 11**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

**East Bay Chavurah, 6:00 pm**

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav members and their guests are invited to CSZ's East Bay Chavurah, held the second Friday of every month. Our evening begins with blessings and a vegetarian/vegan potluck. At 7:30 pm, adults and teens continue our Shabbat experience with some mean-

ingful text-based Jewish dialogue. To RSVP or host a future event, please contact Jessica Israel Cannon at [jisrael68@yahoo.com](mailto:jisrael68@yahoo.com).

## Meetings

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**Va'ad Meeting, 6:45 pm**

All are welcome to attend and listen to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's monthly board meeting.

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# L'dor v'dor—Opening The Door



I have been thinking a lot about what the future of Judaism will be in twenty-five years. I wonder how the young people that attend Beit Sefer will practice Judaism in their adult lives.

I think about what institutions and practices will have meaning to them.

In many ways, I have a lot of attachment to the kind of Jewish lives that I would like them to lead. I know this attachment is wrong, or complex at best. However, I know I also come to this feeling honestly, in that I am following in an age old tradition (Tevye sings out TRADITION, TRADITION!) which is that to sustain the Jewish people we must make sure that the practice of Judaism follows a strict code that is passed on from generation to generation.

Lately, however, I have been discovering a different voice in myself, a different leaning. This leaning is towards openness and the possibility of what is to come. This is an openness I am grateful for and has also been hard won. This December marks the two-year anniversary of my mother's death. When my mother Shirley (may she be of blessed memory) died, I had a strong urge to stop time, to make sure that every element that was important to her Jewish identity was sustained. I experienced a sensation of holding tight to every nuance, recipe, Yiddish phrase, and organization that she had taught me or shared with me. I felt so strongly that if I didn't sustain these Yiddishe elements, they would fade away and some deep vibrant element of Judaism and my history would fade into the ether.

This is certainly the Jewish ethos I was raised with. Hold tight to every drop of Judaism: SUSTAIN, SUSTAIN, SUSTAIN. I certainly appreciate where this mindset came from, in my family and my ancestry. I was born twenty years after the Holocaust. I just now

understand, as I rest firmly in my middle age (really late middle age), that twenty years is a pittance, twenty years is barely a hiccup in history, and the impact of the Holocaust was surely going to inform a great deal of my Jewish identity. Subsequently I was raised to be both very tough, proud, and always fearful and alert. Quite reasonably I was raised with the idea that Judaism could just become a wisp of a memory, demolished, forgotten, and destroyed.

However, when I really think about what kept me connected to my Judaism, it was not fear or a sense of overwhelming responsibility. It was joy. I stay connected to my Jewish identity because I found incredible joy in all elements of my Jewish life. It was joy that compelled me in my own Jewish learning, and it was joy that prompted me to make Judaism my life's work.

And now I ponder, what will the hundreds of students I have taught over twenty-five years do with the joy I have tried to impart to them? What kind of Jewish world will they create? What kind of Jewish leaders will they become? What new institutions will they build that absolutely reflect their values and ethics? And... what does it really mean to pass the Torah down from generation to generation? I wonder at what point you step aside and let the amazing Torah that is created by the next generation come to fruition.

I think about Moses, standing and watching as the people Israel entered the Promised Land. Surely he wanted to join his tribe. Surely some part of him (a large part) wanted to participate in this next chapter of Jewish history. But somehow he knew that the Israelites needed to do this on their own.

*Had Moses entered the Land, he would have built the Temple. His handiwork would have lasted for ever. Later, when the Jewish nation would anger G-d, He would punish them.*

*Since Moses did not build the Temple, it was vulnerable. When G-d became angry with His people, He vented His anger on the building—having the Babylonians and then the Romans destroy it. The people, however, were spared—Rashi*

*Furthermore, had Moses entered the Promised Land, he would have ushered in the Messianic Age. As good as that may sound (bypassing anti-Semites, tragedy and taxes for the past 3000 years), Moses understood that this would have defeated the purpose of Creation.—Vilna Gaon*

*G-d designed an imperfect world and invited each of us to help Him complete it. Moses understood that the point of life is for humans to slowly and collectively over generations, convert the world into a home for the Divine.*

—The Lubavitcher Rabbi

So it is for my generation of Jewish leaders, we need to make room. We need to infuse enough joy in the next generation that they want to create new and amazing ways to engage with their Judaism.

We need to open the door, and invite the next generation to take the lead. I have total faith that the Jewish world they create will be a home for the Divine.

—Rebecca Weiner



# Introducing the Bat Mitzvah

## Amalia Cymrot-Wu

Amalia Cymrot-Wu is a 7th grader at Aptos Middle School. In her free time she enjoys playing soccer.

She is on her school's soccer team and is currently enjoying the soccer season. When she isn't playing soccer, she enjoys being creative and making art. She also likes hanging out with her friends and having fun. Her Bat Mitzvah will be on January 12, 2013, and she is excited to turn 13 and celebrate with all of her friends and family at the ceremony and after at the party.



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		19 TEVET	20 TEVET	21 TEVET	22 TEVET 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	23 TEVET 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service 7:00 pm Havdalah program
24 TEVET	25 TEVET 7:30 pm Torah Study	26 TEVET	27 TEVET 6:45 pm Va'ad meeting	28 TEVET 6:00 pm Biblical Hebrew	29 TEVET 6 pm East Bay Chavurah 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	1 SH'VAT 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service Amalia Cymrot Wu bat mitzvah
2 SH'VAT	3 SH'VAT 7:30 pm Torah Study	4 SH'VAT	5 SH'VAT	6 SH'VAT	7 SH'VAT 7:30 pm Shabbes Beat	8 SH'VAT 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
9 SH'VAT	10 SH'VAT Office closed – Dr. MLK Jr. Holiday	11 SH'VAT	12 SH'VAT	13 SH'VAT	14 SH'VAT 6:00 pm Friday Night Live 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	15 SH'VAT 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service 8:00 pm Cantor Unplugged
16 SH'VAT	17 SH'VAT 7:30 pm Torah Study	18 SH'VAT	19 SH'VAT	20 SH'VAT		





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
23 SH'VAT 4:00 pm Music in the Mishkan	24 SH'VAT 7:30 pm Torah Study	25 SH'VAT	26 SH'VAT	27 SH'VAT	21 SH'VAT 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	22 SH'VAT 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service 7:00 pm Havdalah program
30 SH'VAT	1 ADAR 7:30 pm Torah Study	2 ADAR	3 ADAR 6:45 pm Va'ad meeting	4 ADAR	5 ADAR 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	6 ADAR 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
7 ADAR	8 ADAR Office closed – President's Day	9 ADAR	10 ADAR	11 ADAR	12 ADAR 6:00 pm Friday Night Live 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	13 ADAR 9 am Talmud Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service 11:00 am Purim Carnival Erev Purim
14 ADAR	15 ADAR 7:30 pm Torah Study	16 ADAR	17 ADAR	18 ADAR		
24	25	26	27	28		



# Cantor Unplugged

One of the most beloved annual events that Cantor Sharon Bernstein brings to our congregation is the staging of **Cantor Unplugged**. This intimate evening transforms our bimah into a swanky nightclub, and transforms our Cantor from one who leads us in worshipful song into a styling diva. The event, sponsored by the Rabbi Julius and Pearl Funk Music Fund, gives Cantor Bern-

stein a chance to perform the kind of music she doesn't normally sing in the Sanctuary.

Three years ago, CSZ member Carolyn Reiser began playing piano for **Cantor Unplugged**. And guest vocalists have joined our cantor in the spotlight at Chez Sha'ar Zahav. This year she will be performing with Cantor Leigh Korn from Temple Isaiah in Lafayette. The program will have a distinct international flavor with Italian *canzoni*,



## Cantor Unplugged: *International Cabaret*



~ Saturday, January 26 ~  
8:00 pm

Featuring

**Cantor Sharon Bernstein**

**with Cantor Leigh Korn and Carolyn Reiser**

singing ballads, chansons, and show tunes  
from across the lands

Reception to Follow

Admission: \$10 members; \$15 non-members;  
children 12 and under free

Sponsored by The Rabbi Julius and Pearl Funk  
Musical Events Fund

French *chansons*, and a wonderful array of Broadway show tunes.

Tickets sell quickly, so don't delay.

## Top 7 Reasons to Attend:

- #7: Hobnob with the sophisticated crowd at Chez Sha'ar Zahav
- #6: Hear the mellifluous tones of Cantor Leigh Korn
- #5: Tap your toes as Carolyn Reiser tinkles the ivories
- #4: Practice your Italian and French for much less than traveling overseas
- #3: Check out the Cantor's gown for 2013
- #2: Soak up a shower of show tunes
- #1: Whistle as Cantor vamps on the piano!



# Music in the Mishkan Returns for a 14th Season!

**M**usic in the Mishkan is back for a 14th season! Our own Randy Weiss and his band of merry musicians will present three stupendous Sunday afternoon concerts in 2013. Mark your calendars: the dates are February 3, March 17, and May 19.

Highlights of the season include:

Stanford composer Jonathan Berger's "Eli, Eli" and Dvorak's lush "American" String Quintet on February 3.

Aaron Copland's "Vitebsk", a tribute to his parents' shtetl, and Mendelssohn's elegant C minor Piano Trio on March 17.

Tchaikovsky's monumental Piano Trio, plus Jonathan Berger's version of the Yiddish classic "Tears in Your Hand" on May 19.

All concerts begin at 4:00 pm, followed by a wine and cheese reception. You can order tickets by calling the office at (415) 861-6932, or by filling out the order form you received in December. The full programs are listed below. Don't miss these beautiful concerts in our lovely sanctuary!

## Sunday, February 3 "Czech it Out"

*String Quintet in B flat major, Op. 87-Felix Mendelssohn*

*Eli, Eli for string quartet-Jonathan Berger*

*String Quintet in E flat major, Op. 97-Antonin Dvorak*

## Sunday, March 17 "British Invasion"

*"Euterpe" from Las Musas de Andalucia-Joachin Turina*

*Piano Trio-Rebecca Clarke*

*Vitebsk for piano trio-Aaron Copland*

*Piano Trio in C minor, Op. 66-Felix Mendelssohn*

## Sunday, May 19 "Russian to the Concert"

*Piano Trio in C minor, Op. 1, No. 1-Ludwig van Beethoven*

*Tears in Your Hand-Jonathan Berger*

*Piano Trio in A minor-Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky*

# Purim is Coming!

**T**his year Purim falls on Saturday, February 23rd (14 Adar). Festivities at CSZ will abound, with the annual Beit Sefer carnival and original

Purim Shpil (starring our very own Beit Sefer students!) on Saturday morning. In the evening, we'll have readings from the Book of Esther, followed by a gender-bending after party with all the glitz, glamour, and outrageous fun our combined LGBT Jewish communities can fathom.

There is also a serious side to Purim. In addition to the more festive "obligations" of the holiday (eating, drinking, making extreme merry), it is a mitzvah to give tzedakah, and many communities organize efforts to give donations of money and food to the needy. Please include tzedakah in your Purim planning.

Look to upcoming announcements for details of Purim at Sha'ar Zahav, and in the meantime, start planning how you want to unmask yourself this Purim!





# Nosh Down Knockout!

BY REBECCA WEINER

The first annual Kugel Nosh Down on December 9th was a huge success! The Kugel mavens Julia Weber and Rebecca Weiner were so pleased by the generous support and “kugeli-ciousness!” With 14 entrees, there was an array of sweet, savory, and even Southwestern kugels to take a little nosh from. With over a hundred people in attendance, the judging was fierce but the judges, Paul Cohen and Kim Haveson, honed their palettes to pick a winner. The teen panel also weighed in with their choices. The winner was a Mexicali kugel made by Amelia Paradise. The event raised funds for the Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer Music program. A great time was had by all.



## Programming and Civil Dialogue on the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict Are You Interested?

BY TERRY FLETCHER

The CSZ Middle East Dialogue and Programming Committee (formerly the Follow Up to the Israel Survey Committee) creates programs at Congregation Sha’ar Zahav that speak to our members’ diverse perspectives on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and include civil dialogue. We’re planning to do up to five programs in the coming year and we’re looking for a few new members to work with us. We want to maintain a balance of perspectives both on the committee and in our programming.

Here’s what’s involved: The group meets for about one and a half hours usually once a month on a weeknight. We each then take on one of the discrete tasks needed to organize the events, which might include contacting speakers, coordinating with CSZ staff, doing publicity, or helping set up on the day of the event.

Committee members need to be comfortable and skilled at interacting with a diverse group of people (in terms of their politics on the issues). They need to be able to support (attend, help set up, publicize, etc.) programs that reflect the full diversity of views held by our congregants even when the

views expressed in these programs are ones they may strongly disagree with. They should have a strong interest in promoting a safe space to engage with others in our community for discussion.

Despite the challenging and serious nature of the issues, and our diversity in views, we have a good time together, and benefit in so many ways from our involvement. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Terry Fletcher at [gillianf19@gmail.com](mailto:gillianf19@gmail.com) or (510) 859-3719



## Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk Musical Event Fund

**John Arnold** in honor of Jon Funk on the occasion of Hanukkah.

**James Carlson** in memory of Bettie Cymrot.

in memory of Rose Barkoff.

in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Jonathan Funk** in honor of Rabbi Angel and Cantor Bernstein in appreciation of the wonderful High Holiday services.

in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in honor of Ron Lezell's 60th birthday.

in memory of Daisy Arnold.

## General Fund

**Marianne Balin** in honor of Karen Schiller.

**Allan Berenstein** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in memory of his father, Harry Berenstein.

**Gina Centanni** in memory of her mother, Lucille Centanni.

**Jay Cohen**

**Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman** in memory of Doris Balin.

**Bob Daroff** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Marc & Rebecca Dembling**

**The Goralsky Cohen Family** in honor of Steve Elman.

**Lulu Hwang** in honor of her friends, Bernie & Lois' B'nei Mitzvah.

**Michael Kalb** in memory of Florence Seidman.

**KESHET** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Idit Klein & Jordan Namerow** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**The Koch Family** in honor of Tiela Chalmers.

**Whitney Leake** in honor of Bernie Choden's Bar Mitzvah & Lois Scott's Bat Mitzvah.

**Ron Lezell** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in memory of Phil Malakoff.

**Mark Lipsitz** in support of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

**Nancy Meyer** in memory of Bettie Cymrot.

in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Harold Meyerson** in memory of Bettie Cymrot.

**Mark Pressler** in honor of Karen Schiller.

**Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz** in memory of Bettie Cymrot.

in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in memory of Philip Malakoff.

**Gerald Rosenstein** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in honor of Ron Lezell's 60th birthday.

**Sharyn Saslafsky** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Elizabeth & Michael Schaeffer** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in memory of Philip Malakoff.

**Karen Schiller** in memory of Bettie Cymrot.

in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Sam Thal** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

**Martin Tilzer** in honor of Jeffrey Lilly.

in honor of Jeff Rubin.

**Steve Weiner & Norm Dito** in memory of Fred Tannenbaum.

in honor of Sherry Berenstein's special birthday.

## High Holiday Pledges 5773

**Stan Adler**

**Lisa Bach**

**Mirit Friedland**

**Alice Harron**

**Marjorie Hilsenrad**

**Batya Kalis**

**Jean Katz** in honor of Lisa Katz & Sharon Heath.

**Marila Lubensky**

**Mark Mackler**

**Mark Pressler**

## Phyllis Mintzer Education Fund

**Allan Berenstein** in memory of Bettie Cymrot.

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Ilana Drummond & Sharon Dulberg** in gratitude to Rabbi Angel.

**Diana Buchbinder & Jean Redsecker** in memory of Helen Buchbinder.

**Michael & Cheryl Rehberg** in honor of Aunt Lois & Uncle Bernie's B'nei Mitzvah.

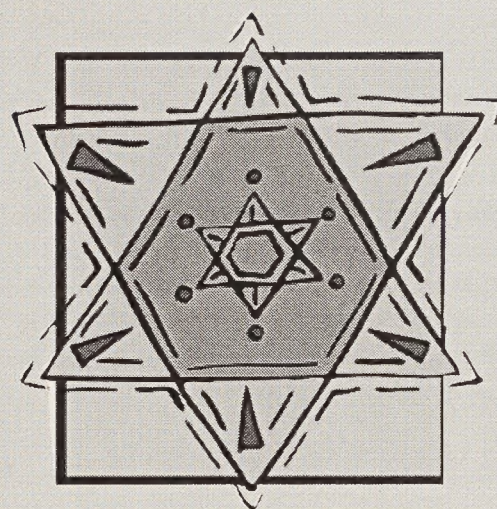
**Stephen Shotland** in honor of Lois Scott & Bernie Choden's B'nei Mitzvah.

**Ray MacLachlan** in honor of Ron Edelman.

## Rainbow Fund 5772

**Patricia Lin**

**Irene Tannenbaum**



## Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch  
with all members of  
the CSZ family  
whenever there are  
occasions of joy or sadness  
in your lives.

Where there is a death  
in the family, please call  
me as soon as possible.  
We very much want to  
be there with you  
at a time of grief.

*Rabbi Camille  
Shira Angel*



**October****5/6**

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored  
*In honor of Howard Steiermann's  
birthday*

Friday Oneg Anonymously Sponsored  
*In honor of Sarita Groisser*

**12/13**

Bimah Flowers & Saturday Kiddush  
Generously Sponsored by **Lois Scott  
& Bernard Choden** *In honor of their  
B'nei Mitzvah*

**26/27**

Friday Night Live Dinner Generously  
Sponsored by **Sharon Dulberg & Ilana  
Drummond and family**

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by  
**Karren Shorofsky & Carolyn Reiser**

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored  
by **Lynn Eden & Ruth Schoenbach** *In  
memory of their friend, Leon Lasher*

**November****2/3**

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored  
by **Arnie Jackson** *In memory of Dr.  
Richard D. Wright*

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by  
**Michael Bettinger & Robert Goldstein**  
*In honor of the 25th anniversary of their  
kiddushin*

**9/10**

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by  
**Michael & Jane Rice** *In memory of  
James Rice and Paula Rose Rice*

**16/17**

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored  
by **Kevin Stein & Helen Bruno** *In  
honor of the bar mitzvah of Cohen  
Bruno Stein*

Saturday Kiddush Generously Spon-  
sored by **Tobia & Irasema Bruno** *In  
honor of the bar mitzvah of their grand-  
son, Cohen Bruno Stein*

**23/24**

Transgender Remembrance Shabbat  
Co-Sponsored with **KESHET**

**NOV 30 / DEC 1**

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by  
**KESHET**

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**jim@CommunitasFinancial.com**

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## Naches

Mazel Tov to Rosa Ortega and her twins, Abraham and Galit, on their welcoming to the Covenant.

Mazel Tov to Cohen Stein on his bar mitzvah.

Mazel Tov to Maxima Alexandra on her bat mitzvah.

Mazel Tov to David Mishook and Meg Keene on the birth of Judah William Mishook-Keene on November 26.

## Condolences

Our condolences to Rabbi Camille Shira Angel on the death of her maternal aunt, Laenu Karp.

Our condolences to Merle Malakoff, Gina Surber, Max and Ben on the loss of their father, father-in-law, and grandfather, Philip Malakoff.

Our condolences to Elana Jacobs in the loss of her friend, Benjamin Greenfield.

Our condolences to Ali Cannon, Jessica Israel Cannon and Raffi Cannon on the death of their honorary mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, JoAnn Lee.

Our condolences to Terry Fletcher and Glen Hauer on the death of their mother and mother-in-law, Ellen Fletcher.

Our condolences to Marianne Balin and Annie and Nora Downs on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Doris Balin.

Our condolences to Ann Bauman on the loss of her cousin, Judy Mann Kushner.

Our condolences to Sara Haber on the loss of her aunt, Evelyn Jane Warmund

## New Member

Welcome to new member Marshall Gold

## Member Yahrzeits

### January

- 3 Aaron Nacamulli
- 9 Jerome Davis
- 14 Harry Clint Bigglestone
- 18 Keith Fenton
- 20 George Ash
- 26 Cheryl Orvis
- 27 Bill Ashley-Dobbin
- 28 Nathan Eli Weinstein

### February

- 1 Steven Richter
- 2 Stephen Walters
- 4 John Atteridg
- 6 Ronald Wilmot
- 14 Ziggy Gimmicher
- 14 Allen Harris
- 14 Barbara Rosenblum
- 15 Allan Ellis
- 17 Rabbi Jason Gaber
- 23 Leland Vogel

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